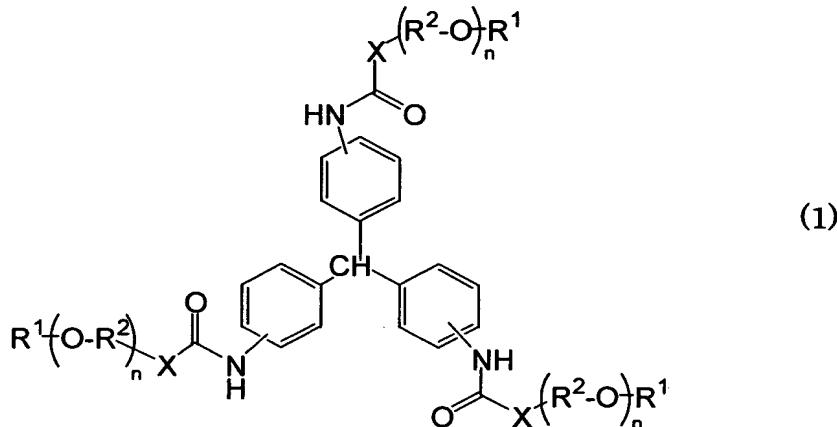


CLAIMS

1. A triphenylmethane derivative represented by the general formula (1):

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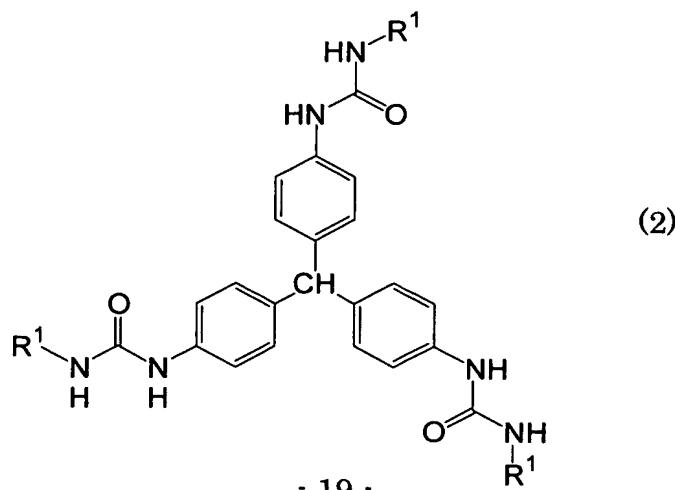
wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; R² is a linear or branched alkylene group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms; X is NH, NR¹, O or a single bond; n is an integer of 0 to 10; and a plurality of the R¹ groups, the R² groups, the X groups and the integers n may be respectively identical to or different from each other.

2. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 1, wherein the integer n in the general formula (1) is 0 or 1.

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3. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 2 which is represented by the general formula (2):

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wherein R¹ has the same meaning as defined in the general formula (1).

4. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

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5. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 6 to 10 carbon atoms.

6. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a
10 linear or branched alkyl group having 11 to 20 carbon atoms.

7. An organic gelling agent comprising the triphenylmethane derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6.

15 8. An organic gel comprising the organic gelling agent as defined in claim 7, and an organic solvent.

9. An organic fiber comprising the organic gel as defined in claim 8, and having a diameter of 500 nm or less.

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